

MEMORANDUM FOR: DCF

New agenda for NSC mtg just arrived.

-- Calls for you to address E/Sal security prospects between now & elections.

-- I tasked to do one paragraph. (Attached).

Doug

Date

8 July

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NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL MEETING

Friday, July 8, 1983

11:00 A.M.

AGENDA

- I. Introduction Judge Clark
- II. Intelligence Update. DCI Casey
 - Status of the current military operation.
 - Prospects for the security situation between now and the election.
 - Arms deliveries to Nicaragua.
- III. Sustaining Support for Our Policies . . . Sec. Shultz
 - A. The Problem
 - American people still lack knowledge of the problem and reason to care.
 - Policy perceived to be military-oriented.
- IV. Policy Implications. Ken Dam
 - A. Our policy is sound but we lack resources to carry it out -- both economic and military.
 - B. Under current trends of inadequate resources, we will lose (i.e., country after country will first swing right and then sharply left).
 - C. This process will be seen to be a Reagan failure when in fact it is a consequence of Congressional cuts.
- V. Corrective Action -- How to get more resources and establish bipartisan accountability? . . . Ken Dam
 - A. A Bipartisan Commission?
 - B. What to do about the short-term resource problem?
- VI. Nicaragua as a Strategic Problem. . . . Sec. Weinberger
 - How to stop the inflow of arms to Nicaragua?
- VII. Wrap Up Judge Clark

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EL SALVADOR: SECURITY PROSPECTS

Between now and the elections scheduled for late this year, we foresee increased efforts by the insurgents to seize the military initiative and intimidate the population from voting.

- They are particularly anxious to conduct raids and terrorism in large urban areas to demonstrate the lack of government security.
- The Army will have to stay on the offensive to keep the insurgents off-balance, but military shortages and logistical problems will make this difficult.
- There will be a tendency to fall back on the defensive as the election date approaches, resulting in some successful guerrilla surprise attacks.
- Nevertheless, we believe that the insurgents are not strong enough to seize and hold a major city, but they could score gains in isolated rural areas.

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